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a control device that controls at least one of the sound recording device, the storage medium, and a sound playback device to prevent at least one of recording, storing, and outputting of a preset sound effect that was output during a recording mode so that the preset sound effect will not be output with the sounds that were recorded by the sound recording device when the release switch initiated the predetermined process.

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10. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 1, wherein the sound playback device silences all or part of the preset sound effect when the preset sound effect is included in the sound stored by the storage medium.

11. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 10, further comprising a selection device that selects whether to remove the preset sound effect included in the sounds output by the sound playback device, wherein a sound removing device silences all or part of the preset sound effect when removing the sound effect is selected by the selection device.

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13. (Twice Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 1, wherein the information input apparatus includes the sound playback device that outputs the sounds stored in the storage medium, and wherein the sound effect output device is controlled by the control device to selectively output a preset sound effect having a frequency incapable of being recorded by the sound recording device, incapable of being stored by the storage medium, or incapable of being played back by the sound playback device.

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14. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a display that displays the images formed by the imaging device and the images stored by the storage medium.

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16. (Twice Amended) An information input apparatus, comprising:
imaging means for forming images of a subject;
sound recording means for inputting sounds;

storage means for storing the images formed by the imaging means and the sounds input by the sound recording means;

indicating means for indicating start of a predetermined process;

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sound effect output means for outputting preset sound effects when the indicating means indicates the predetermined process is started; and

control means for controlling at least one of the sound recording means, the storage means, and a sound playback means to prevent at least one of recording, storing and outputting of a preset sound effect that was output during a recording mode, wherein the preset sound effects will not be output with the sounds that were input by the sound recording means when the predetermined process is started.

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19. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 18, wherein the setting means further sets an information input apparatus operating mode, wherein the preset sound effects correspond to the operating mode set by the setting means.

20. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 16, wherein the information input apparatus includes the sound playback means for playback of the sounds stored in the storage means; and further comprising:

sound silencing means for silencing all or part of the preset sound effects when the preset sound effects are included in the sounds stored by the storage means.

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22. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 20, further comprising deleting means for deleting all or part of the preset sound effects from the sounds input by the sound recording means.

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23. (Twice Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 16, wherein the sound effect output means selects and outputs a preset sound effect with a frequency incapable of being input by the sound recording means, incapable of being stored by the storage means, or incapable of being played back by the sound playback means.

24. (Twice Amended) A method of controlling an information input apparatus, comprising:

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- forming images of a subject using an imaging device;
- performing sound recording of sounds occurring near the information input apparatus using a sound recording device;
- storing the images formed by the imaging device and the sounds recorded by the sound recording device in a storage medium;
- operating a release switch to initiate a predetermined process;
- outputting a sound effect when the predetermined process is initiated; and
- controlling at least one of recording, storing and outputting of the sound effect during a recording mode so that the sound effect that was output during the recording mode will not be output with the sounds that were recorded when the predetermined process initiated the sound effect.

32. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control device includes a device that prevents the output of frequencies that are lower or higher than the common voice frequency.

33. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 32, where the device is a filter.

34. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 1, wherein the control device includes a device that prevents recordation of the preset sound effect by use of a reverse phase of the preset sound effect phase.

35. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 34, where the device is an inverter.

DI 37. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 16, wherein the control means includes prevention means for preventing the output of frequencies that are lower or higher than the common voice frequency.

DI 39. (Amended) The information input apparatus of claim 16, wherein the control means includes means for preventing the recordation of the preset sound effect by use of a reverse phase of the preset sound effect phase.

DI 42. (Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the controlling step includes preventing the output of frequencies that are lower or higher than the common voice frequency.

DI 43. (Amended) The method of claim 42, wherein the preventing the output of frequencies that are lower or higher than the common voice frequency comprises filtering out such frequencies.

44. (Amended) The method of claim 24, wherein the controlling step includes using a reverse phase of a phase of the preset sound effect to prevent the recordation of the preset sound effect.

REMARKS

Claims 1-45 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 19, 20, 22-24, 32-35, 37, 39 and 42-44 are amended. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

The Office Action repeated the Election of Species Requirement, and withdrew claims 16-30 and 32-45.